

Watershed

The Newsletter of Save The Bay

Spring/Summer 2002



Discover The Bay - Why Should Tourists Have All The Fun?

Save The Bay's new Community-Based Restoration Program (CBR) brings diverse communities together to protect and restore wetlands and creeks near their homes and businesses in many areas around the Bay. CBR enlists community members to participate directly in hands-on habitat restoration projects while learning environmental stewardship values and skills.

The CBR Program is a unique collaboration among Save The Bay, local middle and high schools, community groups, corporate sponsors, private landowners, academia, local and state resource agencies, and our members.

At our Arrowhead Marsh pilot site, located in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Shoreline Park in Oakland, Save The Bay and the East Bay Regional Park District are recruiting and training volunteers to harvest local native plant seeds and plant them in greenhouses.

SAVE THE BAY

Save San Francisco Bay Association

Join Us!



At Save The Bay's 41st Anniversary Member Picnic

Saturday, June 8, 2002 - 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Oakland's MLK Regional Shoreline Park

Come spend a great day on the Bay with other
Save The Bay members and their families.

For more information see page 7

Celebrate The Bay

“CPR” For The Bay - Celebrate, Protect, and Restore

As my plane descended into SFO, I remember staring out the window at the patchwork of red, orange, and green that makes up the aerial view of the Cargill Salt Ponds. These seemingly unnatural colors greet many transplants to the Bay Area with an image that leads them to believe that the Bay is unhealthy. Many commuters simply drive over the Bay, never considering the Bay is anything other than polluted and devoid of life. The Bay Area population is expected to grow by over one million by 2020, and many of these newcomers will adopt this attitude that the Bay is past saving.

When I first encountered the idea that Save The Bay promotes “CPR” for the Bay—Celebration, Protection and Restoration—it seemed to me that it might be more appropriate to reverse these letters. Celebration of the Bay should come after Protection and Restoration; how can we Celebrate something that is still in need of help? But the more time I spend at Save The Bay, the more I realize that the three objectives are interconnected in complex ways; Celebrating the Bay is something we should do constantly, and we should actively recruit others to Celebrate with us. What better way to make both long-time residents and recent arrivals realize that the Bay is alive and much healthier than it used to be, but still in need of our help?

Save The Bay and dozens of other concerned organizations and individuals have

made tremendous progress in Protecting and Restoring the Bay. Whether the successes are in the offices of political decision-makers or out in the mud of the wetlands, public support for projects to Protect and Restore the Bay is vital. Fostering a love of the Bay in Bay Area



Jocelyn Hittle
Policy Fellow

residents is the first step toward strengthening this support base. Save The Bay’s Canoes In Sloughs program is already working to create a place for the Bay in the hearts and minds of the Bay Area’s youth. Our new Discover The Bay program is doing the same for adults and families.

Yet there is still more we can do. The best way to help others grow to understand and love our Bay is to Celebrate the Bay ourselves and encourage others to do so. Nothing is more likely to get people out on the Bay than seeing others enjoying themselves hiking, biking, kayaking, canoeing, windsurfing, or just sitting and appreciating a view of the Bay. Enthusiasm is contagious, so get out and Celebrate our Bay!

“The best way to help others grow to understand and love our Bay is to Celebrate the Bay ourselves and encourage others to do so.”

Jocelyn Hittle has spent the last year with Save The Bay as a Princeton Fellow. She’ll return home to Colorado in August where she hopes to attend Veterinary School. *Thank you, Jocelyn!*

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SAVE THE BAY Save San Francisco Bay Association

1600 Broadway, Suite 300, Oakland, CA 94612

Phone: (510) 452-9261

Fax: (510) 452-9266

E-mail: savebay@savesfbay.org

Website: www.savesfbay.org

Eastshore State Park Vision Becomes a Reality



Oyster Restoration Taking Place All Around The Bay



"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes."

Explore Brooks Island

May 26 Rating: Moderate

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Non-members \$50, members \$40 (snack included)

You know Angel and Alcatraz, Treasure and Alameda. But have you ever been to Brooks? Enjoy a gentle kayak run across a protected inlet, then journey on foot around this two mile-long island along the East Bay shoreline. The Bay views from the summit are simply stunning.

Yoga on the Bay

June 22 Rating: Comfortable

12:00 Noon - 2:00 PM Non-members \$15, members \$10

Stretch your muscles and your mind while celebrating the Summer Solstice at Berkeley's Caesar Chavez Park. Join yoga instructor Marya Carr atop the grassy knolls overlooking San Francisco Bay.

East Bay Shoreline Bike Ride

June 29 Rating: Comfortable - *

9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon No cost, donations welcome Ride with Save The Bay staff along this beautiful and often-overlooked section of San Francisco Bay. This is a car-free section of the Bay Trail, with great Bay and City views, broad wetlands, and plenty of shorebirds.

July 4th Paddle at Arrowhead Marsh

July 4 Rating: Comfortable

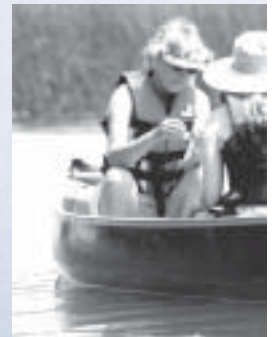
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Non-members \$30, members \$25

Celebrate Independence Day away from the crowds while paddling Arrowhead Marsh. This evening paddle offers a chance to view one of the impressive San Francisco Bay firework displays.

Canoe the Cosumnes River

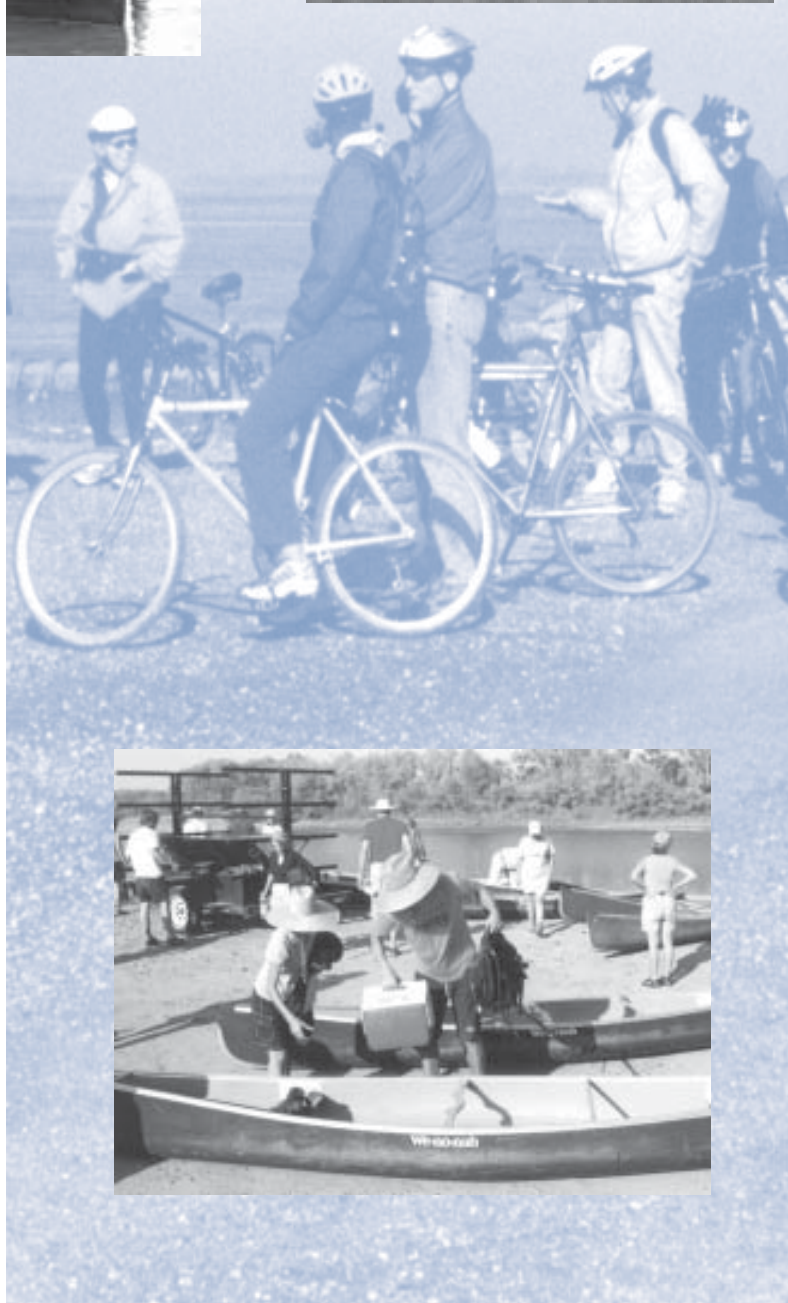
July 6 Rating: Comfortable

9:30 AM - 4:00 PM Non-members \$50, members \$40 Described by the Sacramento Bee as "an intimate world of tules, beavers, cottonwood trees and bird life," the Cosumnes River Preserve is a hidden California gem. Enjoy a leisurely paddle and examine the ecology of this sublime riparian wonderland.



*Discovery consists not in
, but in having new eyes."*

Marcel Proust



Burrowing Owl Discovery

July 13 Rating: Comfortable - **9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon**

Non-members \$5, members free

Hike through Mountain View's Shoreline Park with Burrowing Owl expert Lynne Trulio looking for this feisty little bird and its young. Spend the morning learning about the natural history of this small but mighty endangered predator.

Gallinas Creek Family Ed-Venture

July 18 Rating: Comfortable, children welcome

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Non-members \$30, members \$25

Kids are welcome on this mid-week canoe paddle through the serene saltwater marsh of Gallinas Creek located just up the Bay from China Camp. Bring the kids to play with mud, watch birds and learn about the Bay from Save The Bay naturalists.

Kayak The Marin Islands

July 20 Rating: Moderate

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Non-members \$50, members \$40

Save The Bay has partnered with The Department of Fish and Game to clean-up and explore these islands, which are normally off-limits to the public.

Adventure-Cat Sailing Trip

July 27 Rating: Comfortable, children welcome

10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon Non-members \$50, members \$45

Board a 55 foot catamaran and ride with the wind around San Francisco Bay. Enjoy the comfort of the glassed-in cabin or the thrills of the large trampoline. Families are welcome! Snacks, binoculars and field guides are provided. Please bring a lunch. For canoe trips, all canoe gear is provided by Save The Bay.

For more information and/or to sign up for a Discover The Bay trip, please contact:

Jocelyn Hittle at (510) 452-9261 or e-mail

JHittle@savesfbay.org

Discover The Bay outings are led by Save The Bay naturalists certified in Wilderness First Aid and CPR.

This program is made possible by funding from the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund.

San Franciscans Vote To Protect The Bay Landmark Bay Protection Passes by 3 to 1



David Lewis, Save The Bay's Executive Director, addresses a Proposition D rally

On Tuesday, November 6, San Francisco voters sent a strong message: ***Don't Mess with Our Bay***. The passage of Proposition D once again demonstrated the deep love Bay Area residents have for our region's most valuable natural resource and showed that San Francisco residents don't trust the airport commission and other political appointees to protect it.

Proposition D requires that any City of San Francisco-sponsored project that requires 100 acres or more of Bay fill be subject to a citywide vote. The only project that comes close to the 100-or-more-acre marker is SFO's massive plan to fill up to 1,000 acres to reconfigure its runways.

Proposition D is a strong mandate for protecting San Francisco Bay, and thanks and congratulations to all of you who helped make it happen!

SFO Pushes Forward With Plans To Pave The Bay

With the dramatic drop in air travel since September 11, delays have virtually disappeared at SFO, and airport officials predict more than a \$100 million shortfall in revenue this year. Nevertheless, the airport plans to run full speed ahead with plans to fill up to 1,000 acres of the Bay to reconfigure its runways. Not only does SFO plan to move forward, recent indications suggest they plan to propose that the reconfigured runways are necessary for security—an argument they have never used before.

More than ever before it seems clear that SFO's runway plans are reckless, in addition to being unnecessary and harmful to the Bay. To those who still believe that SFO expansion proponents are waiting until the research studies are completed before stating their recommendations, here's what the airport's chief runway champion, San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown said in a recent speech to local union leaders: "There ain't no way but to pave the bay!"

Save The Bay is currently working to inform Bay Area residents about the impacts SFO's runways would have on the Bay. We are also urging the airport to look at alternatives to runway reconfiguration, more efficient use of the current runways, new guidance technologies, and regional transportation planning: all reasonable approaches which should be thoroughly evaluated before filling the Bay is considered.

If you wish to stay up to date with the latest events surrounding SFO's on-going runway plans, please call Dirk Manskopf at 510.452.9261 or contact him at dirk@savesfbay.org.



Photo by Chris Baker

DISCOVER THE BAY - WINTER OUTINGS

January 19 Flyway Festival paddle trips at the annual Northern San Francisco Bay Flyway Festival
9:00 – 12:30 Bull Island (Napa River near Vallejo)
9:00 – 12:30 Petaluma Marsh (Lakeville Rd. near Hwy. 37)
(Special Flyway Festival rate - \$20.00)

OTHER OUTINGS AROUND THE BAY

January 26 Learn, Bird and have fun as we walk along Tolay Creek, a newly restored wetland in the North Bay. 9:30 am – 1:30
February 2 Bike and Bird along the Hayward shoreline and view San Francisco Bay's migratory birds. 9:00 am – 1:00
(The fee for the above outings is \$5.00, and includes maps and interpretive information.)

To reserve your spot on these outings, please call Jocelyn at 510.452.9261 or jhittle@savesfbay.org



Exploring Rush Ranch on Suisun Bay

Parks Bond On The March Ballot

On March 5, 2002, California voters will decide whether to approve \$2.6 billion in general obligation bonds to be paid over the next 25 years. If approved, AB 1602 (Fred Keeley-D) will provide funding to many important San Francisco Bay-Delta watershed protection and restoration projects.

If you're interested in doing more! Look for updates on this issue in the coming months as the March election approaches.

TAKE ACTION FOR THE BAY

Please send a letter to encourage the Regional Water Quality Control Board to start mandated water-quality restoration efforts for dozens of Bay Area creeks and Bay segments. The Clean Water Act requires the Board to list water bodies that are polluted and start comprehensive cleanup processes (TMDLs) to ensure restoration. While this mandate has been ignored for decades, state regulators are finally starting this process under pressure from local, regional and national environmental groups. Bay Area municipalities are resisting efforts to expand the list of restoration projects. The Regional Board also appears to be accommodating these interests by ignoring polluted water bodies in and around the Bay. Please let Board know that we expect it to implement the Clean Water Act!

Send your comments to:

SFBRWQCB Region 2
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400 – Oakland, CA 94612
Phone 510.622.2300 Fax 510.622.2460

Will Your Company Match Your Gift To Save The Bay?

Your company may want to help you support Save The Bay. Please check with your Human Resources Department to find out if they have a matching gift program. The following companies are just a few places that already have matched gifts to Save The Bay.

- Adobe Systems Inc.
- AIG
- American Express
- Anchor Brewing
- Autodesk, Inc.
- Becton Dickinson
- Boeing
- Bank of America
- Cadence Design Systems, Inc.
- Charles Schwab
- Cisco Systems
- Clorox
- Capital Group
- EBay
- Fleet
- Gap Foundation
- IBM
- Marin Community Foundation
- McGraw-Hill
- Microsoft
- National Semi-Conductor
- PG&E
- Platinum Technologies
- Prudential Foundation
- SAFECO
- Silicon Graphics
- Sun Micro - systems
- Transamerica
- Washington Mutual

SAVE THE BAY

Save The Bay has been working for four decades to protect and restore the San Francisco Bay-Delta and to improve public access to its shoreline. We are committed to keeping the Bay alive, healthy, and beautiful.

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SAVE THE BAY

1600 BROADWAY, SUITE 300
OAKLAND, CA 94612

510-452-9261 Phone
510-452-9266 Fax
www.savesfbay.org

Need a Speaker?

Save The Bay's Speakers' Bureau gives talks to community associations, civic groups, environmental clubs, boating clubs, garden clubs, fishing groups or *any* organization concerned about the future of San Francisco Bay. We have speakers available in most parts of the Bay and with four weeks' notice will try to accommodate your group

Contact Paul Revier previer@savesfbay.org
or (510) 452-9261 for more information

Forgotten Who Your Legislators Are?

Look them up on the internet at www.state.ca.us, or call or e-mail Dirk Manskopf at Save The Bay for legislative information as well as updates on action needed to achieve bill passage at dirk@savesfbay.org or 510/452-9261.

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